



## State of Utah

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#### NEWS RELEASE

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### UTAH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANNUAL ARBOR DAY POSTER CONTEST

#### Four Winning Schools Each Receive \$1,000 Cash Award

Utah elementary schools are invited to participate in Utah's annual Arbor Day poster contest. Schools in four regions with first place winners will each receive \$1,000 to be used any way they wish. Student winners receive U.S. Savings bonds, framed certificates and other prizes. Registration deadline is February 6, 2006.

"Children have the opportunity to learn of the importance of trees in our communities and have a fun time while doing it," said Geoff McNaughton, forestry programs coordinator for the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands. "The theme of this year's Arbor Day Poster Contest is 'Trees are Terrific...in All Shapes and Sizes!'"

Students in kindergarten through sixth-grade, plus special education students, are asked to create a poster utilizing the theme and following a set of criteria. Schools conduct individual judging and submit one poster from each grade and special education to the Utah Arbor Day Committee. A panel then judges those posters and winners are awarded prizes during annual Arbor Day celebrations held at several locations statewide during the month of April. The grand prize poster is distributed statewide and the winning fifth-grade poster is entered in the National Arbor Day Poster Contest.

Registration materials are now being sent to principals and Arbor Day coordinators throughout the state. Teachers and schools not receiving registration materials in the mail, or desiring additional information, should contact the Utah Arbor Day Committee at the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands in Salt Lake City at (801) 538-5555, or at [www.forestry.utah.gov/arborday.htm](http://www.forestry.utah.gov/arborday.htm).

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